

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01

PM-03 SP-02 L-02 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 AID-05 IGA-01

/061 W

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R 221105Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1485

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PASS COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, NP

SUBJ: VIP TOUR FOR DIRECTOR GENERAL OF NEPALESE CUSTOMS

REF: STATE 079356

1. AMBASSADOR CALLED ON D.P. PANDAY, DIRECTOR GENERAL NEPALESE CUSTOMS, TO INFORM HIM INFORMALLY THAT HE HAD RECEIVED INVITATION FROM COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS TO VISIT US. AMBASSADOR SHOWED PANDAY LETTER OF INVITATION AND PROPOSED ITINERARY. PANDAY WAS DELIGHTED TO RECEIVE INVITATION BUT REQUESTED THAT FORMAL INVITATION TO HIM BE SENT THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SINCE HE WOULD FIRST HAVE TO RECEIVE CLEARANCE FROM GON. IN DISCUSSING INVITATION, PANDAY COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON ITINERARY BUT ASKED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO DELETE THIRD PARAGRAPH OF LETTER STATING THAT INVITATION WAS BEING ISSUED UNDER AUSPICES OF CABINET COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL. PANDAY EXPLAINED THAT NARCOTICS CONTROL WAS POLITICALLY SENSITIVE ISSUE IN GON, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF

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CHARGES FROM SOME SOURCES THAT GON WAS ACTING UNDER

PRESSURE FROM FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS, AND HE FEARED THAT HIGHLIGHTING OF SPONSORSHIP BY CABINET COMMITTEE MIGHT BE SUBJECT TO MISINTERPRETATION. AMBASSADOR REPLIED THAT HE ASSUMED THIS PRESENTATIONAL POINT WOULD CAUSE NO PROBLEM, BUT FIRST WISHED TO QUERY WASHINGTON.

2. COMMENT: AS WE HAVE POINTED OUT PREVIOUSLY, ISSUE OF NARCOTICS CONTROL IN NEPAL IS POLITICALLY SENSITIVE. WHILE THERE IS GROWING AWARENESS WITHIN GOVERNMENT OF NEED TO TAKE EFFECTIVE ACTION TO CONTROL NARCOTICS ACTIVITIES IN NEPAL, THERE IS AT SAME TIME AN ARTICULATE AND INFLUENTIAL GROUP, INCLUDING SOME WITH VESTED INTERESTS IN STATUS QUO AND CERTAIN ELEMENTS OF PRESS, WHICH HAS ATTEMPTED TO USE CHARGE

OF FOREIGN INTERFERENCE TO DELAY PROGRESS IN NARCOTICS CONTROL, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO EFFORTS TO PASS EFFECTIVE NARCOTICS CONTROL LEGISLATION IN NEPAL. BOTH WE AND UNDP, WHICH HAS TAKEN LEAD IN HANDLING NARCOTICS ISSUE WITH GON, BELIEVE THAT NEPAL IS MAKING PROGRESS IN EFFORTS TO CONTROL NARCOTICS, AND THAT ANY STEPS WHICH COULD BE CONSTRUED FOR ANY REASON AS FOREIGN INTERFERENCE WOULD BE COUNTER PRODUCTIVE AT THIS POINT. AS PANDAY IS FULLY AWARE THAT LARGE PORTION OF HIS PROGRAM IN US WILL DEAL WITH NARCOTICS MATTERS, AND AS IT IS IN OUR OWN INTERESTS THAT HE OBTAIN CLEARANCE FROM GON TO VISIT US WITH MINIMUM

OF FUSS, WE RECOMMEND THAT EMBASSY BE AUTHORIZED TO DELIVER COMMUNICATION TO FOREIGN MINISTRY CONVEYING INVITATION AND ITINERARY WITHOUT INCLUSION OF PARAGRAPH IN LETTER SPECIFYING SPONSORSHIP BY CABINET COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL. PLEASE ADVISE ALSO IF OCTOBER VISIT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TIMING. CVBO

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CUSTOMS OFFICIALS, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MartinML  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 079356  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MartinML  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 AUG 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <03 DEC 2003 by MartinML>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VIP TOUR FOR DIRECTOR GENERAL OF NEPALESE CUSTOMS  
**TAGS:** SNAR, NP, (PANDAY, D P)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006